Statements by witnesses - Chief JESSE CURRY

In Vol. XIX, pp.406-7, is a ststement which he apparently signed in the margin, prepared by the FBI, of an interview dated November 25, 1963.

If Chief Curry is not the biggest liar in Dallas, he is certainly the man most skilled as seeming to be a liar by using language which technically may be just short of false. His representation of the Oswald transfer in this ststement is at variance with everything else.

For example, the very first sentence states, "Chief JESSE CURRY stated that the plan for removal of LEE HARVEY OSWALD from the Dallas City Jail to the Dallas County Jail, was left to the discretion of Homicide Captain WILL FRITZ, who was in charge of investigating the murder of Officer J. D. TIPPITT ...". First of all, the Commission showed that there never really was a plan. Second, the Commission showed that Fritz was never consulted until the morning of the move.

Then Curry "stated that FRITZ told him he planned to remove OSWALD sometime during the following day to the Dallas County Jail. He stated that he did not specify any time and that was left tothe discretion of FRITZ."

The reference to "the following day" can mean only; the 23rd. There was no plan thus far in my research revealed to remove Oswald on the 23rd. In the very next paragraph, in any event, Curry himself refutes this. This paragraph begins with a statement attributed to Curry that "at no time did he give the press a specific time as to when OSWALD would be removed ..." What he did, as he makes clear in the next sentence, was to give them a specific time following which Oswald would be moved. This sentence reads, "He stated that on the night of November 23, he was asked by the press when they should be back and he told them 10:00 the next morning." And, of course, this referred only to the moving of Oswald.

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He keeps on trying to pin everything on Fritz/ /In the first page of his statement, then fairly effectively refutes it in the last paragraph, appearing on p.407, which reads, "Chief CURRY related that the Deputy Chief, N. T. FISHER had instructed Captain CECIL TALBERT of the Radio Patrol Division to make certain that the proper security was set up p in the basement of the Dallas Police Building." It is obvious that if Capt. Fritz were in complete charge of the moving of Oswald, there would have been no necessity for Chief Curry or anybody else to have assumed responsibility for "security in the basement".

In another F_BI statement, also apparently signed by Curry in the margin, dated Dec. 11, 1963, and appearing as Curry Exhibit 5314 on pp.408-9, Vol. XIX, Curry is quoted as having stated, "he had discussed security measures with his staff, that he had not given any specific assignments to any one individusl inasmuch as the department went strictly by chsin of command, and he did not feel it was necessary to give specific assignments." In the last paragraph of this statement, which appears on p.409, he gives a different version of his statement to the press. Here he is quoted as claiming "he did not name a specific time when OSWALD was going to be moved ...". When the newsmen tried to pin him down to the time OSWALD would be moved", he stated "that one of the newsmen, whose name he could not recall, finally said /'Well, what time should we be here?' Chief CURRY said he told him they should be there by 10:00 a.m., but he did not state OSWALD was going to be moved at that time and that, as a matter of fact, they had made no attempt to move OSWALD until a few minutes after 11:00 a.m. on November 24, 1963."

The only reason Oswald was not moved earlier than the time he actually was moved, according to the report, is because Capt. Fritz wouldn't stand still for the lack of security; but in any event, it is clear here,

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as it has always been clear, that Curry was well aware of telling the press that Oswald would not be moved before 10 a.m. on the 24th.